

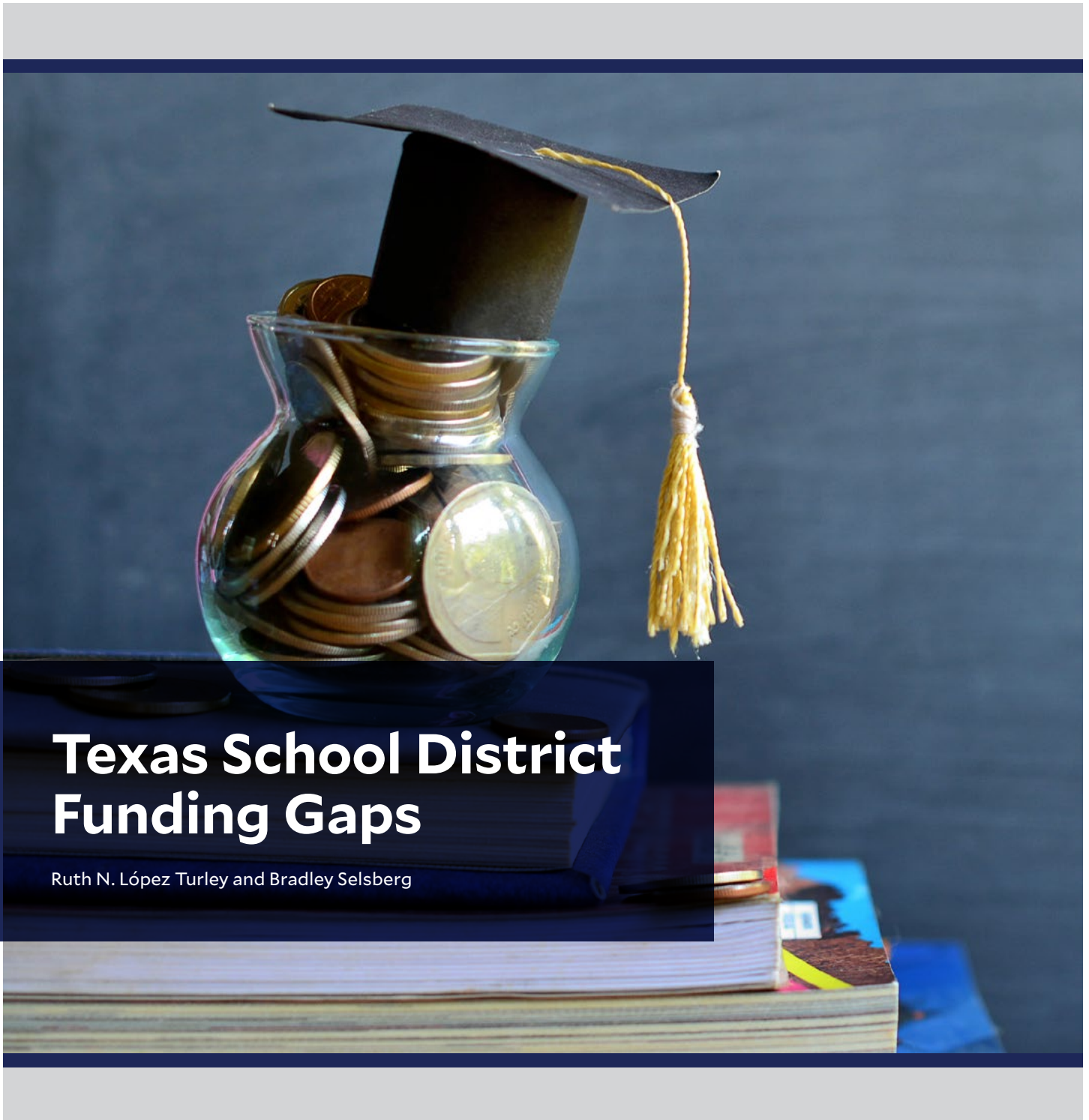


RICE UNIVERSITY

Kinder Institute for Urban Research

*Houston Education Research Consortium*

*Building Better Cities  
Building Better Lives*



# Texas School District Funding Gaps

Ruth N. López Turley and Bradley Selsberg

**Research Brief**

August 2024

**Suggested Citation:**

Turley, R. & Selsberg, B. (2024). "Texas School District Funding Gaps." Houston, TX: Houston Education Research Consortium, Kinder Institute for Urban Research, Rice University.

**About HERC.** Focusing on the most pressing challenges facing the region, the Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC) is a research-practice partnership between the Kinder Institute for Urban Research and 10 Houston-area school districts. HERC research is developed directly alongside district leaders with findings shared with decision makers—culminating in long-term, equity-minded solutions, opportunities and growth for Houston and beyond.

DOI: [doi.org/10.25611/WSJZ-5Z43](https://doi.org/10.25611/WSJZ-5Z43)

# Background

Although Texas per-pupil funding has increased since FY2020, adjusting for inflation and recapture payments counteracts those increases such that the value of current per-pupil funding is equivalent to what it was back in FY2014 ([TEA Public Education State Funding Transparency, May 28, 2024](#)). Accordingly, many Texas school districts are reporting large budget deficits, some even after implementing significant efforts to improve efficiency ([Houston ISD Efficiency Report, February 2024](#)).

Quasi-experimental, multistate studies show strong evidence that increased school spending improves student outcomes ([C. Kirabo Jackson, 2020](#)), but exactly how much funding is needed to improve student performance in Texas school districts?

In April 2024, the [School Finance Indicators Database](#) released new estimates of school district funding gaps, which refer to the difference between how much per-pupil funding each district *receives* and how much per-pupil funding each district *needs*. Linking these funding gap estimates to [TEA student achievement ratings](#), we ask the following questions.

## Research Questions

- What is the extent of funding gaps in Texas school districts?
- What is the relationship between the size of the funding gaps and student performance in Texas school districts?
- Are there specific funding gaps that are of greatest concern? How large of a funding gap can Texas school districts tolerate before their student achievement ratings become too low?

## Data and Methods

This analysis combines [TEA student achievement district ratings](#) with data from the [School Finance Indicators Database](#), which estimates funding gaps for almost every school district in the country. Using a common benchmark (national average test scores), these funding gap estimates are based on the difference between how much per-pupil funding each district *receives* and how much per-pupil funding each district *needs*. School district needs are based primarily on local labor costs, which vary greatly and account for a majority of school district expenditures, and student composition, since some types of students are associated with higher costs, such as English learners and special needs students. For more details about how these estimates were calculated, see the [District Cost Database User's Guide](#). These estimates use the Comparable Wage Index for Teachers originally developed by Dr. Lori Taylor at Texas A&M University.



In addition to TEA student achievement ratings, which are A-F letter grades, this analysis includes TEA district demographic data such as type of district (rural, urban, suburban, etc.), student enrollment, percentage of special education students, percentage of English learners, and percentage of economically disadvantaged students. These factors are included because they may also be associated with student achievement, and these analyses attempt to separate their influence from the influence of funding gaps.

It is important to note a few data limitations. First, due to missing data, only 998 of Texas' 1,207 school districts were included in these analyses. Second, the funding gap data are from the 2020-2021 school year, which is the most recent year available. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, TEA did not provide accountability ratings for the 2020-2021 year. As such, the accountability ratings used here are for the 2021-2022 school year.

In addition to using descriptive statistics, the methods used for these analyses include logistic and ordinal logistic regressions, which are used to examine the relationship between funding gaps and student achievement. More details about the statistical analyses, including the regression results, can be found in Appendix A.

# Key Findings

## 1. Overall, 73% of Texas school districts are underfunded, but the extent to which they are underfunded varies greatly.

Table 1 shows the distribution of funding gaps across Texas school districts. Overall, 27% of districts have adequate funding, while 73% are underfunded, meaning that they have funding needs that exceed their actual per-pupil funding. Although a majority of districts are underfunded, the extent to which they are underfunded varies greatly, with some districts having relatively small funding gaps and others having very large gaps. For example, 9% of districts have funding gaps that are less than 10% of what they need, which is a relatively small gap. At the other extreme, 8% of districts have funding gaps that exceed 50% of what they need, which is a substantial gap. The 78 districts with a funding gap of 50% or higher would at least need to double their per-pupil funding to achieve national average test scores, which is a modest benchmark.

**TABLE 1** **Distribution of funding gaps across Texas school districts**

Funding gap %*	No. of TX districts	Percentage
Gap >=50%	78	8%
Gap 40-49%	93	9%
Gap 30-39%	141	14%
Gap 20-29%	156	16%
Gap 10-19%	173	17%
Gap <10%	85	9%
Adequate funding	272	27%
<b>Total</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>100%</b>

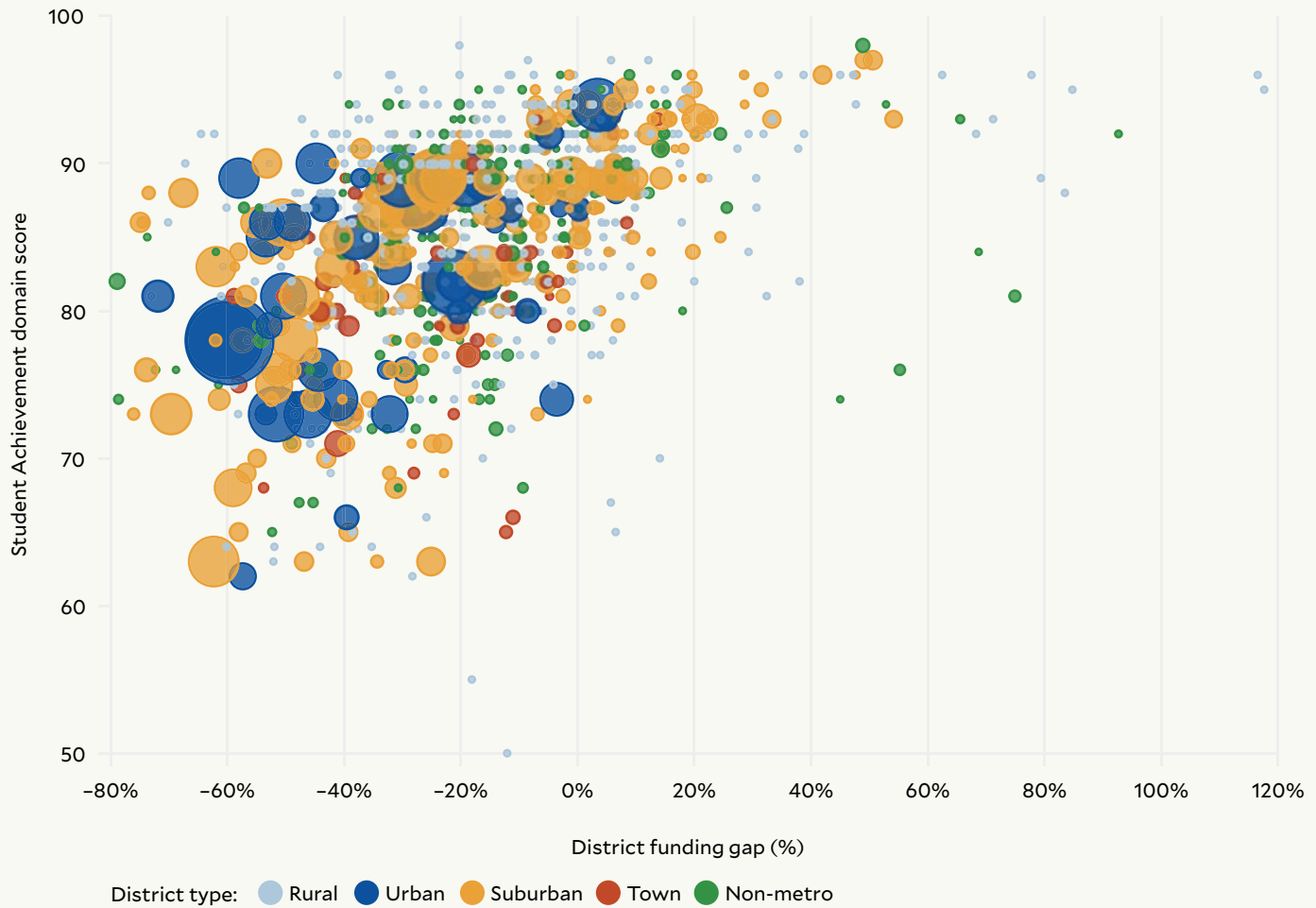
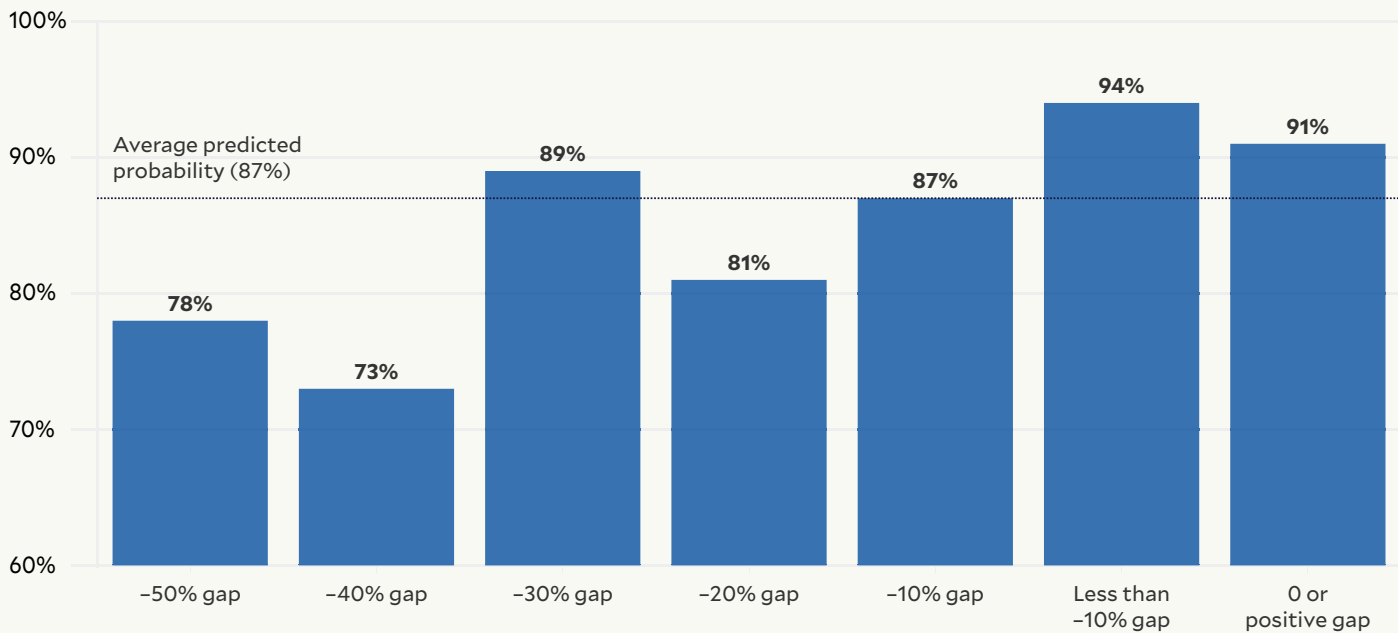
\*Funding gap % = (actual per-pupil funding - adequate per-pupil funding)/adequate per-pupil funding

## 2. Texas school districts with larger funding gaps tend to have lower TEA ratings.

Figure 1 illustrates the relationship between school district funding gaps and TEA student achievement ratings. The size of each circle represents the size of each district based on student enrollment, and the color of each circle represents the type of district (rural, urban, suburban, etc.). Districts with larger funding gaps generally tend to have lower TEA student achievement ratings. This relationship is statistically significant and generally holds across different types of districts.

## 3. About 17% of Texas school districts have funding gaps that are strongly associated with a TEA rating of C or lower.

Although a majority of Texas school districts are underfunded, only funding gaps exceeding 40% are associated with a TEA student achievement rating of C or lower. About 17% of the 998 districts in this analysis have funding gaps that exceed 40% of their needs and are therefore considered “severely” underfunded. Figure 2 shows that the predicted probability that a district achieves an A or B student achievement rating drops significantly when funding gaps exceed 40% of what they need, suggesting that these are the districts of greatest concern. The most severely underfunded districts in Texas are listed in alphabetical order in Appendix B.

**FIGURE 1 Funding gaps and TEA student achievement ratings****FIGURE 2 Predicted probability of an A or B student achievement rating**



# Conclusion

**A**lthough most Texas school districts are underfunded, only the most severely underfunded districts, whose funding gaps exceed 40% of their needs, are strongly associated with TEA student achievement ratings of C or lower.

Reducing funding gaps in Texas' most severely underfunded school districts is likely to significantly increase their chances of achieving a higher TEA student achievement rating. Based on the enrollment in these districts, which totals **1.8 million students**, the estimat-

ed cost of reducing funding gaps in severely underfunded districts is **\$9.3 billion**. Note that this is not the cost of *closing* funding gaps but rather the cost of *reducing* funding gaps to 35% of their needs, as the goal here is to increase the probability of achieving an A or B rating.

Without proper financial support, even the best research-based practices will fail. With adequate (or closer to adequate) funding for our most severely underfunded school districts, we can ensure that efforts to improve student performance are effective and sustainable.



# Appendix A: Statistical Analysis

**L**ogistic and ordinal logistic regressions were used to examine the relationship between TEA student achievement ratings (as A-F letter grades) and funding gaps (using increments of 1%, 10%, and 20%), taking account of additional school district factors. The ordinal logistic regressions treated the ratings as grade categories, while the logistic regressions treated the ratings as a comparison between districts with A and B grades and districts with C, D, and F grades. **Both models indicated a statistically significant relationship between smaller funding gaps and higher student achievement ratings.**

In the logistic regression, the McFadden pseudo- $R^2$  was 0.18, and the only statistically significant covariates at the 95% confidence interval level were the percentage of economically disadvantaged students and the funding gap percentage.

When the funding gap percentage was treated as a categorical variable with intervals of 10%, gaps between -49% and -40% and between -29% and -20% were statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. The logistic model had a McFadden pseudo  $R^2$  of 0.20, and the ordinal logistic model had a McFadden pseudo  $R^2$  of 0.17.

The same analyses were run with the funding gap percentage treated as a categorical variable with intervals of 20%. For the logistic regression, the McFadden pseudo- $R^2$  was 0.19, and the ordinal logistic regression had a McFadden pseudo- $R^2$  of 0.17. **Both models showed that a funding gap exceeding -40% was statistically significant.**

Some variables were excluded from the models due to collinearity. A measure of multicollinearity, the Variance Influence Factor, and a correlation matrix both yielded results suggesting the exclusion of race/ethnicity from the models.

Tables 2 and 3 show the results for the logistic and ordinal logistic models.



TABLE

2

## Logistic regression models predicting student achievement

Variable	Logistic model (1% funding gap increments)	Logistic model (10% funding gap increments)	Logistic model (20% funding gap increments)
Total enrollment 2022	-0.001	0.000	0.000
Funding gap %	0.018**		
% Emergent bilingual	0.022*	0.019	0.023*
% Special education	0.048	0.044	0.049
% Economically disadv.	-0.055***	-0.056***	-0.054***
District type			
Urban	(base)	(base)	(base)
Suburban	0.169	0.128	0.134
Town	0.090	0.098	0.050
Non-metro	0.481	0.458	0.424
Rural	0.761	0.771	0.743
Percent gaps			
-50% gap		-0.969	
-40% gap		-1.278**	
-30% gap		-0.222	
-20% gap		-0.814*	
-10% gap		-0.401	
Less than -10% gap		0.476	
0 or positive gap		(base)	
Percent gaps			
-40% gap or greater			-1.286**
-39% to -20% gap			-0.606
<=-19% gap			-0.221
0 or positive gap			(base)
Constant	4.157***	4.366***	4.190***
N	998	998	998
AIC	823	822	824
P-Value	.000	.000	.000

TABLE 3 Ordinal logistic regression models predicting student achievement

Variable	Ordinal logistic (1% funding gap increments)	Ordinal logistic (10% funding gap increments)	Ordinal logistic (20% funding gap increments)
Student achievement grade			
Total enrollment 2022	-0.001*	-0.001*	-0.001
Funding gap %	0.009*		
% Emergent bilingual	0.009	0.006	0.010
% Special education	-0.004	-0.005	-0.003
% Economically disadv.	-0.060***	-0.060***	-0.059***
District type			
Urban	(base)	-0.522	-0.527
Suburban	0.124	-0.435*	-0.416*
Town	-0.022	-0.528	-0.551
Non-metro	0.536	(base)	(base)
Rural	0.994**	0.474**	0.481**
Percent gaps			
-50% gap		-0.439	
-40% gap		-0.928**	
-30% gap		-0.216	
-20% gap		-0.476*	
-10% gap		-0.509*	
Less than -10% gap		0.047	
0 or positive gap		(base)	
Percent gaps			
-40% gap or greater			-0.823**
-39% to -20% gap			-0.395
<=-19% gap			-0.346
0 or positive gap			(base)
/cut1	-8.235***	-9.001***	-8.895***
/cut2	-7.183***	-7.952***	-7.843***
/cut3	-5.048***	-5.810***	-5.696***
/cut4	-2.149***	-2.876***	-2.782***
Statistics			
N	997	997	997
AIC	1936	1934	1936
P-Value	.000	.000	.000

# Appendix B: Texas' Most Severely Underfunded School Districts

The most severely underfunded school districts in Texas are listed below in alphabetical order. These districts vary significantly in enrollment size and state House and Senate districts represented. For each school district, the table shows the actual per-pupil funding, adequate per-pupil funding (using estimates from the [School Finance Indicators Database](#)), the funding gap in dollars (actual minus adequate funding), and the funding gap as a percentage of their needs (funding gap divided by adequate funding). The table also shows the

additional per-pupil funding needed in order to reduce the funding gap percentage to 35% of their needs, which is associated with a significantly higher chance of achieving an A or B TEA student achievement rating. The final column shows the total additional funding each district needs (additional per-pupil funding needed multiplied by the number of students enrolled), which sums up to **\$9.3 billion** for all of Texas' severely underfunded districts.

TABLE 4

## Texas school districts with funding gaps exceeding 40% of their needs (alphabetical order)

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
ALDINE ISD	HD-127, HD-139, HD-140, HD-141, HD-145, HD-148	SD-004, SD-006, SD-015	61,528	\$11,814	\$31,357	-\$19,543	-0.62	\$8,568	\$527,174,980
ALIEF ISD	HD-131, HD-137, HD-146, HD-149	SD-013, SD-017, SD-018	40,642	\$11,913	\$39,214	-\$27,301	-0.70	\$13,576	\$551,759,856
ALTO ISD	HD-008	SD-003	556	\$13,159	\$27,901	-\$14,742	-0.53	\$4,977	\$2,767,017
AMHERST ISD	HD-088	SD-028	126	\$16,722	\$42,642	-\$25,920	-0.61	\$10,995	\$1,385,408
ANTHONY ISD	HD-078	SD-029	798	\$13,499	\$23,674	-\$10,175	-0.43	\$1,889	\$1,507,502
ARLINGTON ISD	HD-090, HD-092, HD-094, HD-096, HD-101	SD-009, SD-010, SD-022, SD-023	55,594	\$10,333	\$19,194	-\$8,861	-0.46	\$2,143	\$119,143,501
ATHENS ISD	HD-004, HD-008	SD-003	2,955	\$10,125	\$19,758	-\$9,633	-0.49	\$2,718	\$8,030,804
ATLANTA ISD	HD-001	SD-001	1,906	\$11,470	\$19,064	-\$7,594	-0.40	\$922	\$1,756,570

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
AVINGER ISD	HD-001	SD-001	137	\$12,929	\$26,117	-\$13,188	-0.50	\$4,047	\$554,446
BARTLETT ISD	HD-054	SD-024	394	\$12,437	\$20,844	-\$8,407	-0.40	\$1,112	\$437,970
BASTROP ISD	HD-017	SD-005	11,947	\$10,595	\$17,734	-\$7,139	-0.40	\$932	\$11,135,799
BEAUMONT ISD	HD-021, HD-022	SD-003, SD-004	16,729	\$10,781	\$25,279	-\$14,498	-0.57	\$5,650	\$94,524,705
BLOOMINGTON ISD	HD-030	SD-018	825	\$12,773	\$26,671	-\$13,898	-0.52	\$4,563	\$3,764,599
BOVINA ISD	HD-086	SD-031	458	\$13,303	\$22,982	-\$9,679	-0.42	\$1,635	\$748,967
BROWNSVILLE ISD	HD-035, HD-037, HD-038	SD-027	38,412	\$12,011	\$28,601	-\$16,590	-0.58	\$6,580	\$252,737,516
BRYAN ISD	HD-012, HD-014	SD-005	16,005	\$11,360	\$24,091	-\$12,731	-0.53	\$4,299	\$68,807,896
BURKEVILLE ISD	HD-011	SD-003	232	\$14,717	\$26,083	-\$11,366	-0.44	\$2,237	\$518,972
CALVERT ISD	HD-012	SD-005	142	\$16,336	\$60,554	-\$44,218	-0.73	\$23,024	\$3,269,422
CAMPBELL ISD	HD-002	SD-008	303	\$13,359	\$25,665	-\$12,306	-0.48	\$3,323	\$1,006,945
CARLISLE ISD	HD-011	SD-001	607	\$13,342	\$24,801	-\$11,459	-0.46	\$2,779	\$1,686,641
CARROLLTON-FARMERS BRANCH ISD	HD-063, HD-064, HD-065, HD-100, HD-103, HD-115	SD-012, SD-023, SD-030	24,888	\$11,687	\$19,954	-\$8,267	-0.41	\$1,283	\$31,933,793
CASTLEBERRY ISD	HD-099	SD-009	3,636	\$10,576	\$20,100	-\$9,524	-0.47	\$2,489	\$9,050,004
CEDAR HILL ISD	HD-102, HD-109	SD-016, SD-023	7,112	\$10,129	\$19,828	-\$9,699	-0.49	\$2,759	\$19,623,430
CENTER ISD	HD-011	SD-003	2,518	\$11,518	\$26,877	-\$15,359	-0.57	\$5,952	\$14,987,262
CHANNELVIEW ISD	HD-143	SD-006	9,503	\$11,262	\$22,982	-\$11,720	-0.51	\$3,676	\$34,935,879
CHILLICOTHE ISD	HD-069	SD-028	199	\$14,657	\$30,715	-\$16,058	-0.52	\$5,308	\$1,056,242
CHILTON ISD	HD-013	SD-022	546	\$12,509	\$26,786	-\$14,277	-0.53	\$4,902	\$2,676,437
CLARKSVILLE ISD	HD-001	SD-001	522	\$13,827	\$33,041	-\$19,214	-0.58	\$7,650	\$3,993,117
CLEVELAND ISD	HD-018	SD-003, SD-005	10,851	\$11,194	\$24,013	-\$12,819	-0.53	\$4,414	\$47,901,197
CLINT ISD	HD-074, HD-075, HD-077	SD-029	10,455	\$11,716	\$27,146	-\$15,430	-0.57	\$5,929	\$61,986,650
COMO-PICKTON CISD	HD-002	SD-001	724	\$12,006	\$22,429	-\$10,423	-0.46	\$2,573	\$1,862,743
COOLIDGE ISD	HD-013	SD-005	302	\$12,932	\$24,494	-\$11,562	-0.47	\$2,989	\$902,708
CORSICANA ISD	HD-008	SD-002	5,996	\$10,762	\$18,354	-\$7,592	-0.41	\$1,168	\$7,003,928
CROCKETT ISD	HD-009	SD-003	1,190	\$12,745	\$33,110	-\$20,365	-0.62	\$8,777	\$10,444,035

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
CROWLEY ISD	HD-090, HD-095, HD-096, HD-097	SD-010	16,227	\$10,935	\$19,454	-\$8,519	-0.44	\$1,710	\$27,749,793
DAINGERFIELD-LONE STAR ISD	HD-001	SD-001	994	\$12,304	\$27,077	-\$14,773	-0.55	\$5,296	\$5,264,274
DALLAS ISD	HD-100, HD-102, HD-103, HD-104, HD-105, HD-107, HD-108, HD-109, HD-110, HD-111, HD-114, HD-115	SD-002, SD-012, SD-016, SD-023	143,430	\$12,240	\$30,943	-\$18,703	-0.60	\$7,873	\$1,129,217,219
DAMON ISD	HD-025	SD-017	116	\$15,939	\$28,523	-\$12,584	-0.44	\$2,601	\$301,710
DARROUZETT ISD	HD-087	SD-031	149	\$14,885	\$25,208	-\$10,323	-0.41	\$1,500	\$223,530
DEL VALLE ISD	HD-046, HD-051	SD-014, SD-021	10,853	\$11,602	\$30,037	-\$18,435	-0.61	\$7,922	\$85,978,009
DESOTO ISD	HD-109, HD-111	SD-023	7,339	\$10,547	\$23,385	-\$12,838	-0.55	\$4,653	\$34,150,202
DIME BOX ISD	HD-017	SD-018	181	\$14,775	\$26,163	-\$11,388	-0.44	\$2,231	\$403,802
DONNA ISD	HD-035, HD-039	SD-027	13,060	\$11,671	\$44,624	-\$32,953	-0.74	\$17,335	\$226,389,876
DUNCANVILLE ISD	HD-100, HD-111	SD-023	11,944	\$11,469	\$21,003	-\$9,534	-0.45	\$2,183	\$26,073,155
EAGLE PASS ISD	HD-074	SD-019	13,358	\$10,101	\$23,726	-\$13,625	-0.57	\$5,321	\$71,076,582
EDCOUCH-ELSA ISD	HD-035, HD-040	SD-027	4,140	\$12,654	\$26,599	-\$13,945	-0.52	\$4,635	\$19,190,349
EDEN CISD	HD-072	SD-028	222	\$14,220	\$25,616	-\$11,396	-0.44	\$2,430	\$539,549
EDGEWOOD ISD	HD-116, HD-120, HD-124, HD-125	SD-026	8,383	\$12,226	\$23,004	-\$10,778	-0.47	\$2,727	\$22,857,088
EDINBURG CISD	HD-035, HD-039, HD-040, HD-041	SD-020, SD-027	32,043	\$11,869	\$23,212	-\$11,343	-0.49	\$3,219	\$103,140,008
EL PASO ISD	HD-077, HD-078, HD-079	SD-029	50,709	\$11,653	\$23,471	-\$11,818	-0.50	\$3,603	\$182,712,133
ELGIN ISD	HD-017, HD-046	SD-005, SD-014	4,985	\$10,680	\$19,548	-\$8,867	-0.45	\$2,026	\$10,100,607
EVERMAN ISD	HD-090, HD-093, HD-095, HD-096	SD-009, SD-010	5,457	\$12,692	\$25,382	-\$12,690	-0.50	\$3,806	\$20,770,979

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
FABENS ISD	HD-075	SD-029	1,983	\$11,839	\$55,415	-\$43,576	-0.79	\$24,181	\$47,950,427
FANNINDEL ISD	HD-062	SD-001	148	\$16,403	\$37,746	-\$21,343	-0.57	\$8,132	\$1,203,521
FOLLETT ISD	HD-087	SD-031	176	\$12,941	\$21,942	-\$9,001	-0.41	\$1,321	\$232,549
FORT WORTH ISD	HD-090, HD-091, HD-093, HD-095, HD-097, HD-099	SD-009, SD-010	74,326	\$11,653	\$24,092	-\$12,439	-0.52	\$4,007	\$297,809,417
FT HANCOCK ISD	HD-074	SD-029	400	\$14,934	\$50,013	-\$35,079	-0.70	\$17,574	\$7,029,780
GAINESVILLE ISD	HD-068	SD-030	3,138	\$9,813	\$16,812	-\$6,999	-0.42	\$1,115	\$3,498,242
GALENA PARK ISD	HD-142, HD-143, HD-146	SD-006, SD-013, SD-015	21,400	\$12,212	\$27,205	-\$14,993	-0.55	\$5,471	\$117,084,750
GALVESTON ISD	HD-023	SD-004, SD-011	6,650	\$12,659	\$23,064	-\$10,405	-0.45	\$2,333	\$15,511,790
GARLAND ISD	HD-100, HD-102, HD-107, HD-112, HD-113	SD-002, SD-023	52,960	\$10,546	\$21,304	-\$10,758	-0.50	\$3,302	\$174,852,736
GIDDINGS ISD	HD-017	SD-018	1,920	\$10,156	\$17,425	-\$7,269	-0.42	\$1,170	\$2,246,880
GLADEWATER ISD	HD-005, HD-007	SD-001	1,703	\$11,067	\$18,536	-\$7,469	-0.40	\$981	\$1,671,324
GOODRICH ISD	HD-009	SD-003	244	\$13,327	\$23,098	-\$9,771	-0.42	\$1,687	\$411,555
GRAND PRAIRIE ISD	HD-100, HD-104, HD-109, HD-111	SD-016, SD-023	27,284	\$9,981	\$20,486	-\$10,505	-0.51	\$3,335	\$90,989,412
GRAPELAND ISD	HD-009	SD-003	631	\$9,788	\$17,760	-\$7,972	-0.45	\$1,756	\$1,108,036
GREENVILLE ISD	HD-002	SD-008	5,320	\$9,773	\$18,826	-\$9,053	-0.48	\$2,464	\$13,107,948
HART ISD	HD-088	SD-031	209	\$12,976	\$23,109	-\$10,133	-0.44	\$2,045	\$427,374
HARTLEY ISD	HD-086	SD-031	232	\$12,305	\$20,893	-\$8,588	-0.41	\$1,275	\$295,904
HEARNE ISD	HD-012	SD-005	737	\$15,771	\$38,386	-\$22,615	-0.59	\$9,180	\$6,765,586
HEMPSTEAD ISD	HD-085	SD-018	1,584	\$12,614	\$26,458	-\$13,844	-0.52	\$4,584	\$7,260,581
HIDALGO ISD	HD-036	SD-020	2,836	\$12,767	\$50,029	-\$37,262	-0.74	\$19,752	\$56,016,247



School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
HOUSTON ISD	HD-131, HD-133, HD-134, HD-137, HD-139, HD-140, HD-141, HD-142, HD-143, HD-144, HD-145, HD-146, HD-147, HD-148, HD-149	SD-006, SD-013, SD-015, SD-017	193,727	\$10,446	\$25,875	-\$15,429	-0.60	\$6,373	\$1,234,573,739
HUNTSVILLE ISD	HD-012	SD-005	15,260	\$8,250	\$14,007	-\$5,757	-0.41	\$855	\$13,040,433
IRVING ISD	HD-100, HD-105	SD-016, SD-023	32,339	\$11,316	\$23,566	-\$12,250	-0.52	\$4,002	\$129,417,444
JACKSONVILLE ISD	HD-008	SD-003	4,735	\$11,206	\$22,569	-\$11,363	-0.50	\$3,464	\$16,401,330
JASPER ISD	HD-021	SD-003	2,166	\$12,148	\$26,284	-\$14,136	-0.54	\$4,937	\$10,692,676
JEFFERSON ISD	HD-007	SD-001	1,160	\$12,855	\$23,371	-\$10,516	-0.45	\$2,336	\$2,709,934
KEENE ISD	HD-058	SD-010	1,016	\$10,929	\$18,290	-\$7,361	-0.40	\$960	\$974,852
KILLEEN ISD	HD-054, HD-055, HD-059	SD-024	43,839	\$9,775	\$17,547	-\$7,772	-0.44	\$1,631	\$71,481,681
KRESS ISD	HD-088	SD-031	271	\$11,982	\$20,723	-\$8,741	-0.42	\$1,488	\$403,234
LA JOYA ISD	HD-035, HD-036	SD-020	24,024	\$12,843	\$45,694	-\$32,851	-0.72	\$16,858	\$404,998,994
LA VEGA ISD	HD-013	SD-022	3,089	\$11,294	\$19,681	-\$8,387	-0.43	\$1,499	\$4,629,330
LANCASTER ISD	HD-109	SD-023	6,978	\$9,752	\$23,258	-\$13,506	-0.58	\$5,366	\$37,441,855
LANEVILLE ISD	HD-011	SD-001	156	\$14,160	\$39,892	-\$25,732	-0.65	\$11,770	\$1,836,089
LAREDO ISD	HD-042, HD-080	SD-021	19,716	\$11,360	\$34,980	-\$23,620	-0.68	\$11,377	\$224,308,932
LAZBUDDIE ISD	HD-086	SD-031	164	\$13,115	\$24,067	-\$10,952	-0.46	\$2,529	\$414,682
LEAKEY ISD	HD-053	SD-019	328	\$14,031	\$25,989	-\$11,958	-0.46	\$2,862	\$938,687
LEFORS ISD	HD-088	SD-028	176	\$13,568	\$25,100	-\$11,532	-0.46	\$2,747	\$483,472
LEGGETT ISD	HD-009	SD-003	219	\$11,343	\$20,933	-\$9,590	-0.46	\$2,263	\$495,696
LEVERETTS CHAPEL ISD	HD-011	SD-001	244	\$13,738	\$36,379	-\$22,641	-0.62	\$9,908	\$2,417,637
LIBERTY-EYLAU ISD	HD-001	SD-001	2,131	\$12,208	\$22,320	-\$10,112	-0.45	\$2,300	\$4,901,300
LINGLEVILLE ISD	HD-059	SD-022	284	\$13,583	\$24,295	-\$10,712	-0.44	\$2,209	\$627,285
LOCKHART ISD	HD-017	SD-021	6,117	\$10,186	\$16,867	-\$6,681	-0.40	\$778	\$4,756,273
LUFKIN ISD	HD-009	SD-003	7,318	\$12,248	\$21,627	-\$9,379	-0.43	\$1,810	\$13,242,287
LULING ISD	HD-017	SD-021	1,425	\$9,490	\$17,534	-\$8,044	-0.46	\$1,907	\$2,717,618

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
MALONE ISD	HD-013	SD-022	153	\$12,388	\$31,065	-\$18,677	-0.60	\$7,804	\$1,194,050
MANOR ISD	HD-046, HD-050, HD-051	SD-014	9,029	\$10,610	\$24,560	-\$13,950	-0.57	\$5,354	\$48,341,266
MARFA ISD	HD-074	SD-029	270	\$14,888	\$28,736	-\$13,848	-0.48	\$3,790	\$1,023,408
MARLIN ISD	HD-013	SD-022	882	\$17,541	\$32,860	-\$15,319	-0.47	\$3,818	\$3,367,476
MARSHALL ISD	HD-007	SD-001	5,059	\$10,373	\$18,583	-\$8,210	-0.44	\$1,706	\$8,630,401
MCALLEN ISD	HD-036, HD-041	SD-020	20,282	\$11,803	\$25,226	-\$13,423	-0.53	\$4,594	\$93,173,480
MCDADE ISD	HD-017	SD-005	319	\$12,198	\$20,710	-\$8,512	-0.41	\$1,264	\$403,057
MEMPHIS ISD	HD-088	SD-031	431	\$15,524	\$34,704	-\$19,180	-0.55	\$7,034	\$3,031,482
MERCEDES ISD	HD-039	SD-027	4,416	\$12,263	\$26,766	-\$14,503	-0.54	\$5,135	\$22,675,718
MESQUITE ISD	HD-100, HD-107, HD-110, HD-113	SD-002, SD-016, SD-023	38,311	\$8,987	\$23,592	-\$14,605	-0.62	\$6,348	\$243,190,566
MEXIA ISD	HD-013	SD-005	1,855	\$12,087	\$24,974	-\$12,887	-0.52	\$4,146	\$7,691,016
MIDWAY ISD	HD-069	SD-030	131	\$17,235	\$31,558	-\$14,323	-0.45	\$3,278	\$429,379
MILFORD ISD	HD-010	SD-022	238	\$13,776	\$27,012	-\$13,236	-0.49	\$3,782	\$900,068
MISSION CISD	HD-035, HD-036	SD-020	13,838	\$11,756	\$25,564	-\$13,808	-0.54	\$4,861	\$67,260,983
MONTE ALTO ISD	HD-035	SD-027	890	\$13,263	\$34,864	-\$21,601	-0.62	\$9,399	\$8,364,754
MORGAN ISD	HD-013	SD-022	139	\$13,603	\$25,005	-\$11,402	-0.46	\$2,650	\$368,385
MORTON ISD	HD-088	SD-031	360	\$14,992	\$25,203	-\$10,211	-0.41	\$1,390	\$500,382
MOULTON ISD	HD-030	SD-018	308	\$12,301	\$20,966	-\$8,665	-0.41	\$1,327	\$408,685
MOUNT ENTERPRISE ISD	HD-011	SD-001	467	\$12,434	\$20,693	-\$8,259	-0.40	\$1,016	\$474,682
MOUNT PLEASANT ISD	HD-005	SD-001	5,139	\$10,629	\$25,831	-\$15,202	-0.59	\$6,161	\$31,662,150
MUMFORD ISD	HD-012	SD-005	611	\$8,117	\$14,375	-\$6,258	-0.44	\$1,227	\$749,544
MURCHISON ISD	HD-008	SD-003	179	\$12,780	\$22,433	-\$9,653	-0.43	\$1,801	\$322,460
NACOGDOCHES ISD	HD-011	SD-003	5,883	\$11,224	\$26,755	-\$15,531	-0.58	\$6,167	\$36,278,990
NEW SUMMERFIELD ISD	HD-008	SD-003	538	\$12,790	\$32,080	-\$19,290	-0.60	\$8,062	\$4,337,356
OLFEN ISD	HD-072	SD-028	141	\$13,901	\$23,975	-\$10,074	-0.42	\$1,683	\$237,268
PADUCAH ISD	HD-069	SD-028	161	\$15,191	\$28,534	-\$13,343	-0.47	\$3,356	\$540,332
PAMPA ISD	HD-088	SD-028	3,451	\$9,315	\$15,592	-\$6,277	-0.40	\$820	\$2,829,130
PANTHER CREEK CISD	HD-072	SD-028	165	\$15,173	\$28,912	-\$13,739	-0.48	\$3,620	\$597,267
PARIS ISD	HD-001	SD-001	3,807	\$11,276	\$21,011	-\$9,735	-0.46	\$2,381	\$9,065,038

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
PASADENA ISD	HD-129, HD-144, HD-146, HD-147	SD-006, SD-011, SD-013	49,255	\$11,686	\$22,668	-\$10,982	-0.48	\$3,048	\$150,139,091
PHARR-SAN JUAN-ALAMO ISD	HD-036, HD-039, HD-040, HD-041	SD-020, SD-027	29,242	\$12,946	\$27,658	-\$14,712	-0.53	\$5,032	\$147,136,971
POINT ISABEL ISD	HD-037	SD-027	1,968	\$12,073	\$29,262	-\$17,189	-0.59	\$6,947	\$13,672,286
PORT ARTHUR ISD	HD-021, HD-022	SD-003, SD-004	7,840	\$12,532	\$29,875	-\$17,343	-0.58	\$6,887	\$53,992,120
PRESIDIO ISD	HD-074	SD-029	1,046	\$12,576	\$47,848	-\$35,272	-0.74	\$18,525	\$19,377,359
PROGRESO ISD	HD-039	SD-027	1,393	\$12,033	\$43,433	-\$31,400	-0.72	\$16,198	\$22,564,441
RANGER ISD	HD-068	SD-022	333	\$13,140	\$24,129	-\$10,989	-0.46	\$2,544	\$847,102
RICHARDSON ISD	HD-100, HD-102, HD-108, HD-112	SD-012, SD-016, SD-023	37,358	\$10,895	\$20,807	-\$9,912	-0.48	\$2,630	\$98,234,729
RIO GRANDE CITY CISD	HD-031	SD-021	9,007	\$12,571	\$50,125	-\$37,554	-0.75	\$20,010	\$180,232,322
RIISING STAR ISD	HD-068	SD-022	191	\$11,597	\$19,817	-\$8,220	-0.41	\$1,284	\$245,254
ROCKSPRINGS ISD	HD-053	SD-019	257	\$16,219	\$28,478	-\$12,259	-0.43	\$2,292	\$588,967
ROMA ISD	HD-031	SD-021	5,621	\$12,330	\$58,352	-\$46,022	-0.79	\$25,599	\$143,890,855
ROYAL ISD	HD-085	SD-018	2,572	\$12,500	\$27,548	-\$15,048	-0.55	\$5,406	\$13,904,746
SALTILLO ISD	HD-002	SD-001	244	\$15,647	\$27,353	-\$11,706	-0.43	\$2,132	\$520,318
SAN ANTONIO ISD	HD-116, HD-119, HD-120, HD-123, HD-124, HD-125	SD-019, SD-026	44,568	\$13,032	\$22,226	-\$9,194	-0.41	\$1,415	\$63,059,263
SAN AUGUSTINE ISD	HD-009	SD-003	662	\$16,227	\$35,421	-\$19,194	-0.54	\$6,797	\$4,499,382
SAN BENITO CISD	HD-035, HD-037	SD-027	9,201	\$11,963	\$21,185	-\$9,222	-0.44	\$1,807	\$16,628,507
SAN DIEGO ISD	HD-031	SD-021	1,453	\$11,181	\$18,626	-\$7,445	-0.40	\$926	\$1,345,333
SAN ELIZARIO ISD	HD-075	SD-029	3,190	\$11,877	\$49,592	-\$37,715	-0.76	\$20,358	\$64,941,382
SAN ISIDRO ISD	HD-031	SD-021	190	\$17,995	\$30,168	-\$12,173	-0.40	\$1,614	\$306,698
SANTA ANNA ISD	HD-072	SD-028	253	\$13,121	\$22,062	-\$8,941	-0.41	\$1,219	\$308,483
SANTA MARIA ISD	HD-035, HD-039	SD-027	543	\$16,222	\$31,442	-\$15,220	-0.48	\$4,215	\$2,288,908
SANTA ROSA ISD	HD-035	SD-027	848	\$13,981	\$27,062	-\$13,081	-0.48	\$3,609	\$3,060,686
SHELDON ISD	HD-142	SD-006, SD-015	10,565	\$11,374	\$22,414	-\$11,040	-0.49	\$3,195	\$33,756,232

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
SHEPHERD ISD	HD-018	SD-005	1,909	\$11,248	\$19,628	-\$8,380	-0.43	\$1,510	\$2,882,972
SIERRA BLANCA ISD	HD-074	SD-029	118	\$13,853	\$28,169	-\$14,316	-0.51	\$4,457	\$525,908
SPRING BRANCH ISD	HD-133, HD-138, HD-148	SD-007, SD-015, SD-017	33,474	\$11,606	\$19,907	-\$8,301	-0.42	\$1,334	\$44,639,253
SPRING ISD	HD-126, HD-127, HD-139, HD-141, HD-148, HD-150	SD-004, SD-006, SD-015	33,406	\$11,471	\$27,984	-\$16,513	-0.59	\$6,719	\$224,441,552
SPUR ISD	HD-083	SD-028	221	\$14,296	\$26,427	-\$12,131	-0.46	\$2,882	\$636,823
TEMPLE ISD	HD-055	SD-024	8,395	\$10,725	\$18,831	-\$8,106	-0.43	\$1,515	\$12,719,684
TENAHA ISD	HD-011	SD-003	472	\$13,460	\$31,376	-\$17,916	-0.57	\$6,934	\$3,273,037
TEXARKANA ISD	HD-001	SD-001	7,126	\$10,789	\$20,735	-\$9,946	-0.48	\$2,689	\$19,160,033
TEXAS CITY ISD	HD-023, HD-024	SD-011	7,756	\$12,766	\$21,363	-\$8,597	-0.40	\$1,120	\$8,686,332
TEXHOMA ISD	HD-087	SD-031	108	\$8,964	\$27,329	-\$18,365	-0.67	\$8,800	\$950,384
TORNILLO ISD	HD-075	SD-029	887	\$13,708	\$43,926	-\$30,218	-0.69	\$14,844	\$13,166,539
TYLER ISD	HD-006	SD-001	18,126	\$10,149	\$17,981	-\$7,832	-0.44	\$1,539	\$27,889,570
UNITED ISD	HD-042, HD-080	SD-021	39,243	\$10,550	\$19,091	-\$8,541	-0.45	\$1,859	\$72,958,623
VALLEY VIEW ISD	HD-036, HD-040	SD-020	3,789	\$11,941	\$45,006	-\$33,065	-0.73	\$17,313	\$65,598,578
WACO ISD	HD-013, HD-056	SD-022	14,066	\$12,273	\$20,305	-\$8,032	-0.40	\$925	\$13,014,567
WAELDER ISD	HD-044	SD-018	304	\$14,500	\$30,172	-\$15,672	-0.52	\$5,112	\$1,553,987
WALLER ISD	HD-085, HD-130	SD-018	8,367	\$10,535	\$18,892	-\$8,357	-0.44	\$1,745	\$14,598,742
WALNUT SPRINGS ISD	HD-013	SD-022	178	\$12,947	\$33,250	-\$20,303	-0.61	\$8,666	\$1,542,459
WATER VALLEY ISD	HD-072	SD-028	350	\$12,831	\$23,354	-\$10,523	-0.45	\$2,349	\$822,185
WELLS ISD	HD-008	SD-003	258	\$13,798	\$29,105	-\$15,307	-0.53	\$5,120	\$1,321,025
WESLACO ISD	HD-039, HD-041	SD-020, SD-027	15,581	\$11,063	\$21,491	-\$10,428	-0.49	\$2,906	\$45,280,723
WEST ORANGE-COVE CISD	HD-021	SD-003	2,555	\$11,871	\$23,256	-\$11,385	-0.49	\$3,245	\$8,291,997
WEST OSO ISD	HD-034	SD-020	1,964	\$11,819	\$21,337	-\$9,518	-0.45	\$2,050	\$4,026,298

School district	TX House district(s)	TX Senate district(s)	Enrollment	Actual per-pupil funding	Adequate per-pupil funding	Funding gap (\$)	Funding gap (%)	Additional per-pupil funding needed to reach -0.35 gap	Additional total funding needed
WEST RUSK COUNTY CONSOLIDATED ISD	HD-011	SD-001	1,038	\$12,097	\$21,081	-\$8,984	-0.43	\$1,606	\$1,666,665
WHARTON ISD	HD-085	SD-017	1,960	\$11,383	\$21,763	-\$10,380	-0.48	\$2,763	\$5,415,382
YSLETA ISD	HD-077, HD-079	SD-029	37,211	\$11,475	\$24,607	-\$13,132	-0.53	\$4,520	\$168,176,975
ZAPATA COUNTY ISD	HD-031	SD-021	3,284	\$10,459	\$27,528	-\$17,069	-0.62	\$7,434	\$24,413,913
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1,800,490</b>						<b>\$9,317,839,734</b>

### **Mission**

The Kinder Institute for Urban Research builds better cities and improves lives through data, research, engagement and action.

### **About**

The Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC) is a research-practice partnership between the Kinder Institute for Urban Research and 11 Houston-area school districts. HERC aims to improve the connection between education research and decision making for the purpose of equalizing outcomes by race, ethnicity, economic status, and other factors associated with inequitable educational opportunities.



RICE UNIVERSITY

Kinder Institute for Urban Research

6100 Main Street MS-208 • Houston, TX 77005  
713-348-4132 • [kinder@rice.edu](mailto:kinder@rice.edu)  
[kinder.rice.edu](http://kinder.rice.edu)